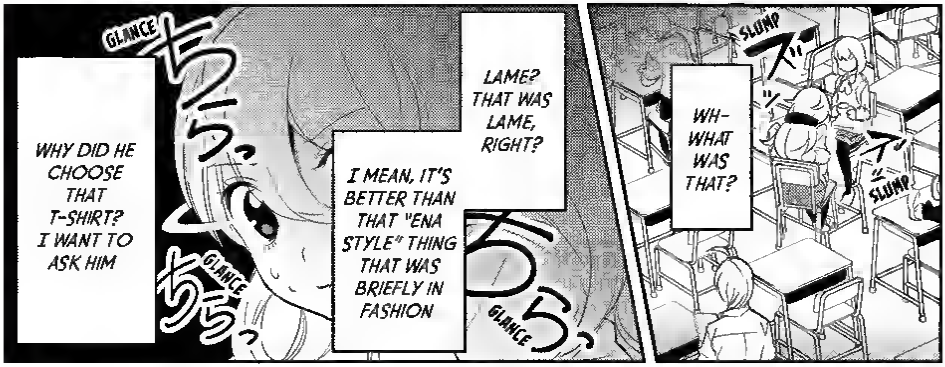
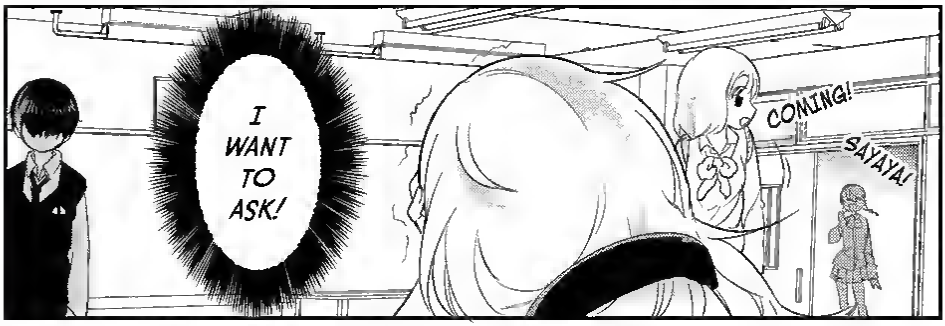
Takahashi-san
is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。

I'M ALL DONE PROMOTING MY ALBUM
IT'S TIME FOR SOME DOWNTIME
YOU REALLY WORKED HARD, ENA-CHII
I WONDER HOW LONG...
WE CAN ENJOY PEACE AND QUIET TOGETHER LIKE THIS
UNTIL WE GRADUATE, OF COURSE!
I WANT TO HANG OUT WITH EVERY-ONE WAY MORE
I LIKE IT HERE
IT'S JUST NICE WHEN NOTHING CHANGES AND IT'S SO TRANQ--
Never Give Up
CHAPTER 54
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?

THAT...
THAT'S AN EXCEEDINGLY DIFFICULT CHANGE TO PRETEND I DIDN'T SEE.


GLANCE
ちらっ
WHY DID HE CHOOSE THAT T-SHIRT? I WANT TO ASK HIM
LAME? THAT WAS LAME, RIGHT?
I MEAN, IT'S BETTER THAN THAT "ENA STYLE" THING THAT WAS BRIEFLY IN FASHION
SLUMP
ズ〜ン
WH-WHAT WAS THAT?


I WANT TO ASK!
COMING!
SAYAYA!

NARA-KUN
IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU WITHOUT A TIE AND WITH YOUR SHIRT UNDONE
IS THIS THANKS TO KATOU-KUN?
WHOA WHAT'S WITH THAT PRINT?
HERE IT COMES!
I GET IT!
YOU'RE SHOWING OFF SOME NEW AVANT-GARDE FASHION. THE THEME IS GARBAGE.
AND HE'S NOT MINCING WORDS!
GAH... IS IT REALLY THAT BAD?
I THINK IT'S VERY UNIQUE
THANK YOU FOR POINTING IT OUT SO QUICKLY
I THOUGHT IT WAS TRENDY
I COMPLETELY WENT ALONG WITH WHAT THAT SALES-PERSON TOLD ME
I'LL COVER IT UP.
SO YOU JUST BOUGHT WHAT THEY SUGGESTED?
GOOD-NESS.

EAVES-DROPPING JUST WON'T LEAVE ME ALONE.
HOW COULD I IGNORE SUCH AN INTERESTING CONVERSA-TION?
I JUST SORT OF HAPPENED TO OVERHEAR THEM TALKING!
I WAS KIND OF UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS A LEFT-OVER

BUT THEN IT CAME...
"ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOME-THING?"
THUS BEGAN THE SALES TALK
I WONDER WHY IT'S SO DIFFICULT TO SHAKE OFF SALES-PEOPLE
YEAH, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
I'M NOT SO GOOD AT HANDLING THEM EITHER

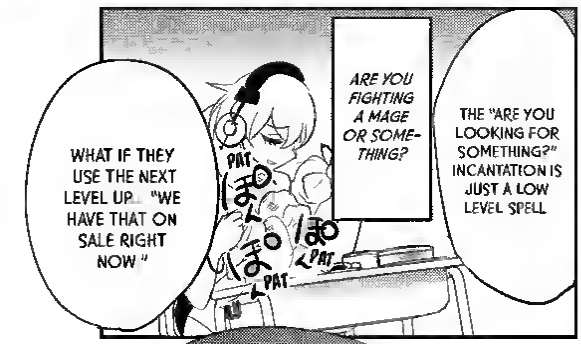
I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO WEAR THIS.
IT JUST COLLECTS DUST IN THE CLOSET.
THEN YOU ONLY EVER WEAR IT TWO OR THREE TIMES.
YOU GET SO WRAPPED UP IN EVERYTHING WHILE YOU'RE SHOPPING THAT YOU END UP BUYING SOMETHING WEIRD.

REALLY? THIS MIGHT BE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.
A TRICK?
BUT YOU KNOW, NARA-KUN,
THERE IS A TRICK TO TURNING THEM DOWN

I TELL THEM
WHEN THEY ASK YOU IF YOU NEED SOMETHING, WHAT DO YOU SAY?
FOR EXAMPLE,
HOW, EXACTLY, WOULD YOU DO THAT?
YES.
YOU JUST HAVE TO TELL THEM
SOMETHING THAT WILL MAKE THEM WANT TO GIVE YOU SPACE

"I'M SURE I WON'T FIND IT HERE.
"I'M LOOKING FOR MY FATHER. I WAS SEPARATED AT BIRTH."
THAT'S ALL.
I BET THE SALES-PERSON WOULD SENSE A LONG STORY AND RUN!
SOUISH
WHEN YOU TELL A SAD STORY LIKE THAT, SALES PEOPLE CAN TELL
THEY CAN TELL YOU NEED SOME DISTANCE
M-MIKAGE YOUR...
YOU FATHER
I NEVER KNEW HE WAS MISSING
YOU BRING OUT THE WATER-WORKS WAY TOO EASILY
NO THAT WAS THE TRICK IT WAS JUST A RANDOM LIE
I SEE! SO THAT'S THE TRICK

MY SON!
NEW DAD, DON'T RUSH THINGS!
...IN A MOST IMMODEST OUTFIT, CLAIMING TO BE YOUR REAL FATHER!
YOU MAY FIND A MAN BURSTING FORTH FROM A DRESSING ROOM...
YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY, OR ELSE...
MIKAGE, LIES HAVE A WAY OF TURNING INTO THE TRUTH


ARE YOU FIGHTING A MAGE OR SOMETHING?
THE "ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?" INCANTATION IS JUST A LOW LEVEL SPELL
WHAT IF THEY USE THE NEXT LEVEL UP... "WE HAVE THAT ON SALE RIGHT NOW."
PAT
PAT
PAT

INDEED, WHETHER OR NOT HE WAS MY REAL FATHER, I WOULDN'T WANT TO MEET IN THAT KIND OF FASHION.
NOT ONLY THAT

YOUR METHOD WOULD NEVER WORK ON A SPELL LIKE THAT!
LET'S SEE... A SALE, HUH?
IN THAT CASE, I TRY TO LOOK A LITTLE PATHETIC AND SAY...

"YOU DO?!
"IS IT REALLY OKAY IF SOMEONE AS DISGUSTING AS ME...
"...WEARS THE SAME KIND OF CLOTHING AS ALL THE OTHER COOL PEOPLE?"
HE'S SURE TO GET HIS DISTANCE WITH A LOW BLOW LIKE THAT!
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
POP
YOU SEE, THEN THE SALES-PEOPLE CAN SENSE...
. HOW EXCEPTION-ALLY HUMBLE YOU ARE THEY'LL KNOW YOU NEED SPACE.
PUTTING YOURSELF DOWN LIKE THAT ISN'T THE SAME AS BEING HUMBLE!
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A TRY, NARA-KUN?
MIKAGE

REPEAT AFTER ME. "IS IT REALLY OKAY IF SOMEONE AS DISGUSTING AS ME..."
DOES MIKAGE-KUN JUST WANT TO MAKE NARA-KUN SAY SOMETHING FUNNY?
WAIT, MIKAGE
WOULDN'T THEY THEN JUST SUGGEST THAT YOU WEAR AN EGREGIOUS FASHION FAUX PAS?
HIS OBJECTION IS IRREFUTABLE WITH THAT OUTFIT.
WITHOUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION, THEY'D UNLEASH THEIR MOST POWERFUL SPELL
"THAT OUTFIT REALLY SUITS YOU." WHAT THEN?
PAT
PAT
BY THAT POINT, IT'S TOO LATE. YOUR SOUL IS ALREADY SOLD TO THE CASH REGISTER!
SQUIRT
THE CASH REGISTER IS NOT INTERESTED IN BARTERING WITH YOUR SOUL.
"THAT OUTFIT REALLY SUITS YOU," HUH?
LET'S SEE. I GUESS YOU COULD TRYING SAYING...

"IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT SUITS ME OR NOT.
"I'M FUNDAMENTALLY THE KIND OF PERSON WHO PREFERS NOT TO WEAR CLOTHES."
I SEE THAT BRAND OF IMMODESTY RUNS IN THE FAMILY.
SQUISH
BAM
SO YOU PRETEND TO BE THE KIND OF PERSON WHO DISLIKES WEARING CLOTHES!
THEN...
THEY'D GET AS FAR AWAY AS POSSIBLE!
THE SALES-PERSON IS BOUND TO CATCH ON...
...TO YOUR CULTURAL DIFFERENCES AND GIVE YOU YOUR SPACE.
HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE CLOTHING YOU WORE TO THE STORE?
WIPE
WIPE
YOU TELL THEM...

IDIOTS CAN'T SEE THEM.
I DON'T WANT HIM TO THINK I'M STUPID
I CAN SEE THEM!
...THE CLOTHES YOU WORE TO THE STORE ARE SPECIAL CLOTHES THAT ONLY IDIOTS CAN SEE
ONLY IDIOTS CAN SEE THEM.
I DON'T WANT HIM TO THINK I'M STUPID
I CAN'T SEE THEM!
"THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES"?
BUT NOT! IT'S BACK-WARDS!
FLUTTER FLUTTER
"NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, YOU DO LOOK BEST WITH NO CLOTHES AT ALL."
THE SALES PEOPLE WILL RESPECT YOUR PRIDE AND SAY...
NOW I KNOW HOW TO SAFELY ENTER A STORE WITHOUT BUYING ANY CLOTHES!
ALL I NEED TO DO...
...IS CONVINCE THE SALESPEOPLE THAT I CAME TO THE STORE COMPLETELY NAKED!
AND THAT'S...

...SOMETHING NO ONE WANTS TO DO.
SLASH
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT.
MIKAGE, NEXT TIME
I'LL JUST BUY MY CLOTHES ONLINE
THAT MIGHT BE FOR THE BEST
ENA-CHII, TODAY WAS PRETTY QUIET, WASN'T IT?
YEAH...
ENA, WERE YOU WEARING THAT FISH PRINT SHIRT EARLIER?

English Digital Edition
Chapter 054

Takahashi-san is listening.
高橋さんが聞いている。
Yu Hokuo

高橋さんが聞いている。, Vol 6 ©201S Yu Hokuo/SQUARE ENIX CO., LTD.
First published in Japan in 2015 by SQUARE ENIX CO., LTD.
Translation ©2015 by SQUARE ENIX CO., LTD.